

REMARKS

Claims 50, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 69, 71, 72, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 81, 82, 84, 86, 87, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94 and 95 are deleted.

Claims 96 to 122 are added.

The number of claims in the application upon entry of the amendment will be 46, the same as the number of claims previously in the application. There are 27 claims added and 27 deleted.

As here amended, the independent claims are 52, 55, 58, 65 and 80.

Claims 55, 58, 70, 73, 85 and 88 were indicated in the Official Action to be allowed.

Claims 52 and 65, here rewritten as independent claims, to incorporate the content of the base Claim 50, were indicated to be allowed if so amended. Those claims have been so amended. Claim 80 was stated to stand withdrawn from consideration and was not similarly indicated to be so allowable. It also depended from the base Claim 50, and is now amended to be an independent claim; as noted above. Claim 80 is actually a species claim under generic Claim 52. Claim 80 differs from Claim 52 only in reciting that “the plurality of thin-film photocatalytic layers consist of titanium oxide with an amorphous structure”. The underlined phrase thus represents a limitation in respect to Claim 52. In this connection, please compare Claim 82.

It is therefore respectfully requested that the holding that Claim 80 stands withdrawn from consideration, for the reason it does not include the limitations of an allowed generic claim, be itself withdrawn and that Claim 80 be allowed.

All the remaining claims, as here amended, depend directly or indirectly from allowed claims or from Claim 80, as indicated in the following tabulation.

Retained and New Claim	Dependency from
51	52
52	Independent
53	52
54	51
55	Independent
56	51
57	51
58	Independent
59	52
61	52
63	52
65	Independent
67	52
70	55
73	58
80	Independent
82	52
85	55
88	58
96	65
97	65
98	96
99	96

Retained and New Claim	Dependency from
100	96
101	96
102	65
103	65
104	80
105	80
106	104
107	104
108	104
109	80
110	80
111	80
112	55
113	55
114	55
115	55
116	55
117	55
118	58
119	58
120	58
121	58
122	58

The new claims contain no new recitations, as will be evident from a comparison of them with claims previously in the case. They all depend directly or indirectly from allowed claims amended as required to be allowable or from Claim 80 which, as urged herein, is allowable.

Claim 82 is amended to simplify its wording. The content is unchanged.

THE DETAILED ACTION

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the holding that presently retained Claims 57, 59, 63, 80 and 82 stand withdrawn is requested.

As the above-tabulation indicates, Claims 57, 59, 63 and 82, as here amended, depend directly or indirectly on Claim 52 indicated in the Official Action, page 5, par. 8, to be allowable if rewritten to include the limitations of the base claim, which has been done.

With regard to Claim 80, this is, as indicated above, actually a species under Claim 52, reciting the amorphous variety of titanium dioxide broadly recited in Claim 52. It includes all the limitations of Claim 52.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of here retained Claims 51, 53, 54, 56 and 61 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Dickman et al. (U.S. Patent 4,701,366) are requested.

As indicated in the tabulation above, the retained claims, as here amended, depend directly or indirectly, on Claim 52, indicated in the Official Action to be allowable if amended to be in independent form, which has been done.

It is incidentally noted that in the last paragraph on page 3 of the Official Action, the reference to Graetzel was clearly intended to be to Dickman et al. This comment also applies to the Graetzel citations on page 4.

It is further noted that such last paragraph does not identify the precise location in the reference specification or drawings showing “opening on a surface of the member and through a thin-film photocatalytic layer and a space communicates with opening” assertedly shown in Figure (1c) of the reference.

It is also requested that the objections to retained Claims 52, 65 and 67 be withdrawn. Claims 52 and 65 have been appropriately amended as required. Claim 67 depends on Claim 52.

The rejection of Claim 95 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) will be moot upon entry of this amendment since Claim 95 is deleted.

As indicated above, all the new claims depend directly or indirectly upon allowed claims or Claim 80. Withdrawal of the holding that the claim stands withdrawn is herein requested.

Entry of the amendment as removing issues, raising no new issues and as not increasing the number of claims is requested.


Favorable reconsideration is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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